

The Great Bend Christian



Vol. 42

October 2009

No. 10

BILL'S BITS -

"PUTTING SHOES ON A GOOSE"

**"Stand firm then...with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace"
(Ephesians 6:15).**

I appreciate all the concern of the congregation concerning the recent problems I had with my feet and knees. Thank you for your calls, cards, visits, and prayers during my last round with my feet. I came across this article by Stanley P. Cornils concerning foot issues. It really caught my eye and I share it with you.

Paul spent a good bit of time in prison for preaching the gospel. While there, he had plenty of opportunity to notice the Roman soldiers and their equipment. This gave him an idea as he wrote to the Ephesians. "Put on the full armor of God," he wrote, and he compared the soldier's defenses with those of the Christian.

Interestingly, even the feet were included. The shoes of the soldier were then, as now, important to the soldier's ability to stand his ground. In fact, shoes are important to anyone who wants to be at his best at whatever he does.

Construction workers are often required to wear steel-toed shoes to protect their feet in case something heavy should fall on them. Men who work in the logging industry wear either hobnails or spikes on the soles of their shoes so that they will not slip when they walk on the logs. Some people wear shoes with metal cleats in the soles and heels to make them wear longer and evenly. Many shoes even have a metal arch support built into them for people who need extra support.

Good shoes are important to all of us. You probably have more than one pair of shoes. If you do, no doubt there is one pair that is your favorite, the one in which you feel your best. You would say they do the most for you, even though they might not be the best-looking of all the shoes you own. It's very difficult to do a good job of anything if your feet don't feel good.

Comfortable shoes have something to do with our feeling of self-respect and self-worth. Let me share with you a little secret. Whenever you have a very important social engagement, or when you are going for a job interview, or you have to stand before a group of people and give a speech or lead a discussion, always wear your favorite shoes, provided their color fits the rest of your outfit. It will give you confidence and courage, and you will be more apt to succeed because you feel good about yourself and what you are wearing. (Continued on page 5)

First Christian Church

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Sunday Services

8:15 am Early Worship

9:00 am Sunday School

10:20 am Morning Worship

Sunday Activities

4:00 pm Grades 6-12 Youth Group

Wednesday

5:30-7:00 pm Family Fellowship Supper

5:30-7:30 pm Youth Meetings

Opportunities for Service and Growth

Adult and Children's Choirs

Vacation Bible School

Men's Groups

Sunday school for all ages

Regional Assembly

Bible Studies

Mission Projects and Trips

Special Services

Promise Keepers

Disciples' Men

Women's Groups

Kansas Disciple Women

Junior and Senior High Youth Group

Youth Ski Trip

Social Events

Educational seminars/workshops

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Justin Frazier.....Youth Coordinator

Kathy Rose.....Secretary

Jerry Ford.....Music Director

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Connie Weiser.....Organist

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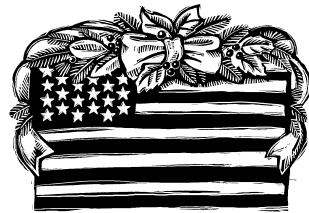
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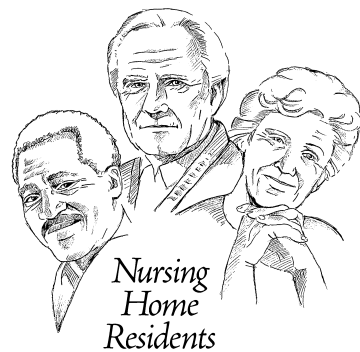


...to Ruth Dailey and family upon the loss of her husband, Orvel
 ...to the family and friends of Helen Standley
 ...to Caron Zager upon the loss of her aunt, Bev Schuab
 ...to Dorothy Alefs upon the loss of her niece, Diane Thompson
 ...to O.W. and Jeri Huss upon the loss of their daughter-in-law, Lori Dykstra
 ...to Amy Karst and family upon the loss of her brother, Lewis Worcester
 ...to Morna Jordan upon the loss of her brother, Merle Mills, in Dallas



**Remember Those
in the Military**

Susi Bargainear, LaDonna Moore's niece - Afghanistan
Bryce Batchman, Air Force, Debbie & Richard Batchman's son - Afghanistan
Lt. Col. Ken Bellinger, Army Chaplain, Cliff Bellinger's son - Northern Italy in September
Josh Gieger, Army, Roger Marshall's fraternity brother's son - Iraq
Cameron Glendenning, Army Green Beret, friend of Jim & Susan Debes - Iraq
Steven McGee, son of Mystie (Svatos) McGee - Afghanistan
Chris Scheuerman, Cliff & Lynne Scheuerman's son, Bud & Vi Black's grandson-Al Fujairah, United Arab Emirates
Delbert Wells, nephew of Hap Donecker - Iraq



Great Bend Health & Rehab

John Richardson
Viola Schwein

Kansas Christian Home

Louise McCullum

Cherry Village Nursing Home

Cliff Bellinger
Martha McKown

Sterling House of Great Bend

Darlene Biggs
Lela Wilson

Woodhaven Care Center - Ellinwood

Esther Burhenn

Please notify the church office if you would like to have yourself or your loved one included in our prayers.
fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com or 793-6603.

September Attendance and Gifts

	6	13	20	27	AVG
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Sunday School	61	65	45	69	60
Early Service	36	42	37	46	40
Late Service	141	135	141	139	139
Children's Church	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	177	177	178	194	182
General Offering	8,687.17	4,632.34	3,293.75	4,677.95	5,322.80
Bldg. Offerings	1,542.50	815.00	727.50	29,167.11	13,063.03
Special Offerings	--	65.40	100.40	984.67	287.62
TOTAL	10,229.67	5,512.74	4,121.65	34,829.73	13,673.45

* Special Offerings include Wed Night Dinner Donations, Memorials for Helen Standley & Lori Dykstra, DMF Reconciliation Offering, Wedding Fees, and reimbursement for paper goods and noodles

Elders/Deacons Meeting – October 14 – 8 pm
Cabinet – October 7 – 8 pm
Board – October 21 – 8 pm

CALLING ALL MEN!
Disciples Men Fellowship
Saturday, October 3rd
8:00 am


The new men's fellowship breakfast is here!
We will meet this month at FCC at 8:00 am.
You are invited to attend for breakfast, a short devotional, and plenty of fellowship time. A sign-up sheet will be out in the Narthex. Come and join us for a morning of good 'ol fashioned "Man Time"!

October 26, 2009, 7:00 pm
Friendship Classroom

NOODLE TIME IS HERE
AGAIN!

Our very talented ladies will be making noodles again on October 19th, and November 9th. Please call the church office (620-793-6603) with your orders. The cost is \$3.00 per pound. Thank you!

Women's Circles



Martha Group
Hostess: Earlene Arnold
Program: Anneliese Ward
October 21, 2009, 1:30 pm

Lunch Bunch
October 21, 2009 - 11:30 am
The Highland

Joy Group
Hostesses: Patsy Hiss/Dixie Hughes
Program: Nelva Grimes
October 27, 2009, 12:00 pm (Noon)

New Day Group
Hostess: Dixie Hughes
Program:



I really appreciate the special service that you gave Ray. I had not realized that the stained glass windows came from the old church. It made the service even more special.

Thank you! Sheryl Cheely

Thanks to all of you for the cards, phone calls, and visits while I was in the hospital and on my return home. A special thanks to Pastor Bill for his visits and his prayers. It is truly a blessing to be part of such a loving and caring congregation.

Mayette Keith

After a 3 year up and down battle with breast cancer, then a cancerous brain tumor, our daughter-in-law, Janel, is cancer free! She's back to work full time and doing well.

Lew's brother, Jim, is cancer free from colon cancer and doing good.

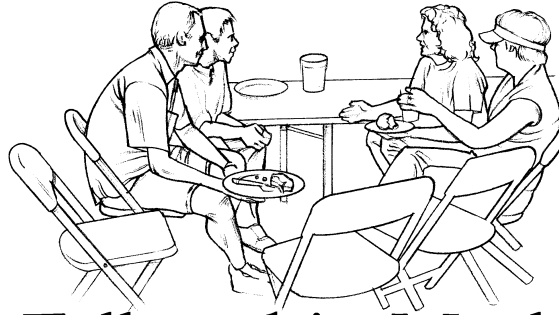
Praise God for answered prayer! Thanks to everyone who prayed for them!

Lew & Jan Embrey

Thank you, Dawson Jewelers, for fixing some of our silver tea pots.

First Christian

Church



Fellowship Meals

2009-2010 WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNER SCHEDULE

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

GROUP I

Ruth Behrens (Contact Person)
Louise Gunn
Rebecca Burton
Rachelle Sheets
Jennifer Keener
Randy & Annette Goering

GROUP II

Donna Marston (Contact Person)
Lois Johnson
Nadine Maier
Jennifer Cauley
Ted & Susan Brown
Morna Jordan
Glen & Dixie Hughes

GROUP III

Roger & Leesa Butler (Contact Person)
Dee Holman
Lane & LaDonna Moore
Bob & Patsy Hiss
Clark & Donna Rusco

GROUP IV

Julie Ford (Contact Person)
Bill & Janis Fairchild
Vivian Chalfant
Betty Ferrell
Melissa Hittle
Debbie Batchman
Nancy Baldwin

GROUP V

Vi Black (Contact Person)
Sue Wells
Mattie Begg
Marilyn Deason
Dolores Westfall
Nelva Grimes

September 30th - Group III
October 7th - POT LUCK
October 14th - Group IV
October 21st - Group V
October 28th - Group I
November 4th - POT LUCK
November 11th - Group II
November 18th - Group III
November 25th - NO DINNER
December 2nd - POT LUCK
December 9th - Group IV
December 16th - Group V
December 23rd - NO DINNER

December 30th - NO DINNER
January 6th - POT LUCK
January 13th - Group I
January 20th - Group II
January 27th - Group III
February 3rd - POT LUCK
February 10th - Group IV
February 17th - Group V
February 24th - Group I
March 3rd - POT LUCK
March 10th - Group II
March 17th - NO DINNER
March 24th - Group III

March 31st - Group IV
 April 7th - POT LUCK
 April 14th - Group V
 April 21st - Group I

April 28th - Group II
 May 5th - POT LUCK
 May 12th - Group III
 May 19th - Group IV

"Putting Shoes on a Goose", continued from page

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Here is a story of how a farmer put shoes on a flock of geese. He was going to sell them to a poultry market in the city several miles away. He had no truck to get them there; so they were all going to have to walk. The only road to town was surfaced with fine crushed rock, and these little rocks were sharp and would cut the feet of the geese. Most everyone knows that the foot of a goose or duck is made like a paddle. It is specially designed for walking on dirt or grass, and for swimming, but not for walking mile upon mile over crushed rock. The farmer realized that if he drove them over this road, they would all be limping before they go to town because their feet would be all chewed up and bleeding. If they were delivered to the market in such a sorry and damaged condition, they would not bring the highest price.

He thought many days about how to overcome the problem and finally hit upon a tremendous idea. He cleaned the floor of one of the pens and poured warm melted tar on it. He then drove the geese into this pen and let them walk around long enough for the bottoms of their feet to become coated with tar. Then he lifted each one to an adjoining pen, which had a floor covered with clean, dry sand. As they walked on the sand, the melted tar picked up a good thick layer of sand as it cooled. Wasn't that a clever idea? Now each goose was equipped with a pair of road shoes. He had an extra sole on the bottom of his paddles. So off to town they went, and the farmers received the top prices for his flock of geese that day.

Just because we, as Christians, are God's chosen people does not mean that He is going to protect and shield us from all difficulties, trials, and rough going. He will not keep us from the difficult way, but will give us strength that will enable us to come out on the winning side even though the victory might be only within us. As we live and share the gospel, we can feel good about ourselves in spite of external circumstances. We can hold our ground against Satan. "Stand firm then...with your feet fitted with readiness that comes from the gospel of peace."

See you Sunday!

Bill

To the Friends of Helen Standley:
 A Memorial Service will be held for Helen, October 24th, at noon at the Fairlawn Cemetery in Cushing, Oklahoma. Cards and condolences may be sent to Phil & Donna Flood, 1371 Sheffield Parkway, Marietta, Georgia 30062-2746; Susan Ware, 246 Storer Ave., New Rochelle, NY 10801; or Tom & Mary Riney, 2607 Lariat Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-6610.



A prayer for pumpkin people

After Liz Curtis Higgs wrote the popular children's book *The Pumpkin Patch Parable*, people began using her analogies to say a prayer while carving their Halloween pumpkins. The pumpkin prayer, a Christian alternative to Halloween traditions, reminds people of all ages what God has done for us. Use it this fall when your family makes jack-o'-lanterns.

- While cutting off the top of the pumpkin, pray, "Lord, open my mind so I can learn new things about you."
(See Proverbs 1:7.)
- While removing the seeds and pulp, pray, "Remove the things in my life that don't please you. Forgive the wrong things I do, and help me forgive others."
(See Matthew 6:14-15.)
- While making eyes, pray, "Open my eyes to see the beauty you've made in the world around me."
(See Psalm 104:24.)
- While making the nose, pray, "I'm sorry for the times I've turned up my nose at your many gifts."
(See James 1:17.)
- While making the mouth, pray, "Let everything I



say please you." (See Psalm 19:14.)

- While lighting the candle, pray, "Lord, help me show your light to others through the things I do." (See Matthew 5:16.)

After carving your pumpkins, display them as examples of how God's love transforms us into new creations. (See 2 Corinthians 5:17.)